

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SINGAP 02491 191136Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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R 190910Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5342

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

S E C R E T SINGAPORE 2491

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SN, TH

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW'S ASSESSMENT OF U.S.

ATTITUDE TOWARD THAILAND

REF: BANGKOK 14180

1. STARTING WITH MY INITIAL CONTACT WITH GOS FOREIGN MINISTRY IN ARRANGING VICE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT AND SUBSEQUENTLY I MADE IT PLAIN THAT VICE PRESIDENT WAS VISITING ALL COUNTRIES OF THE ASEAN REGION WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAD MISSED, WITH SINGLE EXCEPTION OF THAILAND DUE TO OUR DESIRE TO AVOID ENTANGLING VISIT WITH APRIL 9 THAI ELECTIONS. PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW SHOULD THEREFORE HAVE BEEN FULLY AWARE OF REASON WHY VICE PRESIDENTIAL BY-PASSED THAILAND.

2. HOWEVER, IF DEPARTMENT AND AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO GO OVER THIS GROUND AGAIN WITH PM LEE I WILL SEEK AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO. THIS MIGHT BE DONE IN CONTEXT MY DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM ON RELOCATION OF SOME INDIAN OCEAN SUPPORT FACILITIES FROM THAILAND TO SINGAPORE.
HOLDRIDGE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PFOR, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SINGAP02491
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760194-0944
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760536/aaaabfbi.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 BANGKOK 14180
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW'S ASSESSMENT OF U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD THAILAND
TAGS: PFOR, SN, TH, US, (LEE KUAN YEW)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006